

Docket: 14656

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named

Inventor:

Leonard S. Schultz

Appln. No.:

10/612,862

Filing Date:

Title:

July 3, 2003

Examiner:

Jason M. Greene

SMOKE EVACUATION SYSTEM

Group Art Unit:

1724

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop RCE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Express Mailing Number: EV 688440615 US

Date of Deposit: March 8, 2006

I hereby certify that this document is being deposited with

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Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Kim Anderson

(Name)

Signature)

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is in response to the Notice of Allowance mailed December 13, 2005. Accompanying this Amendment includes a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R § 1.114 and an Information Disclosure Statement.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.